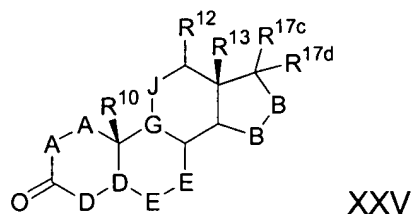


IN THE CLAIMS:

1 – 14. (canceled)

15. (new) A compound corresponding to Formula XXV

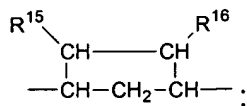


wherein R^{10} , R^{12} and R^{13} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, cyano, and aryloxy;

-A-A- represents the group $-\text{CHR}^1-\text{CHR}^2-$ or $-\text{CR}^1=\text{CR}^2-$;

where R^1 and R^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, cyano, and aryloxy, or R^1 and R^2 together with the carbons of the steroid nucleus to which they are attached form a (saturated) cycloalkylene group;

-B-B- represents the group $-\text{CHR}^{15}-\text{CHR}^{16}-$, $-\text{CR}^{15}=\text{CR}^{16}-$, or an α - or β -oriented group:



where R^{15} and R^{16} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano, and aryloxy, or R^{15} and R^{16} , together with the C-15 and C-16 carbons of the steroid nucleus to which they are respectively attached, form a cycloalkylene group;

-D-D- represents the group $-\text{CR}^4=\text{C}-$ or $\text{CHR}^4-\text{CR}^5-$;

where R^4 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano and aryloxy or R^4 and R^5 together with the carbons of the steroid backbone to which they are attached form a cycloalkyl group;

-G-J- represents the group $\text{>C=CR}^{11}\text{--}$;

where R^{11} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, protected hydroxy, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano and aryloxy; and

-E-E- represents the group $\text{--CR}^6\text{=CR}^7\text{--}$;

where R^6 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano and aryloxy; and

R^7 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano, aryloxy, acetylthio, furyl and substituted furyl;

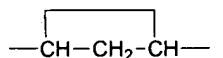
R^{17c} is selected from the group consisting of hydroxy and protected hydroxy; and

R^{17d} is alkenyl.

16. (new) The compound as set forth in claim 15 wherein R^{10} is methyl, R^{11} is hydrogen and R^{13} is methyl.

17. (new) The compound as set forth in claim 16 wherein -A-A- represents the group $\text{--CH}_2\text{--CH}_2\text{--}$ or --CH=CH-- .

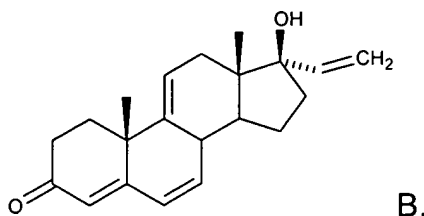
18. (new) The compound as set forth in claim 17 wherein -B-B- represents the group $\text{--CH}_2\text{--CH}_2\text{--}$ or an α - or β -oriented group:



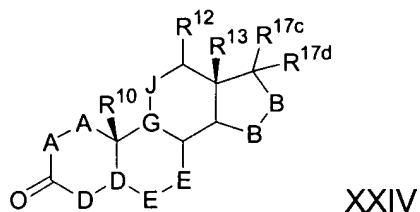
19. (new) The compound as set forth in claim 18 wherein -E-E- is --CH=CH-- .

20. (new) The compound as set forth in claim 19 wherein R¹¹ is hydrogen.

21. (new). The compound as set forth in claim 15 having the structure of Formula B



22. (new) A compound corresponding to Formula XXIV

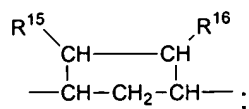


wherein R¹⁰, R¹², and R¹³ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, cyano; and aryloxy;

-A-A- represents the group -CHR¹-CHR²- or -CR¹=CR²-;

where R¹ and R² are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, cyano, and aryloxy, or R¹ and R² together with the carbons of the steroid nucleus to which they are attached form a (saturated) cycloalkylene group;

-B-B- represents the group -CHR¹⁵-CHR¹⁶-, -CR¹⁵=CR¹⁶- or an α - or β -oriented group:



where R¹⁵ and R¹⁶ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano, and aryloxy,

or R¹⁵ and R¹⁶, together with the C-15 and C-16 carbons of the steroid nucleus to which they are respectively attached, form a (saturated) cycloalkylene group;

-D-D- represents the group $\text{—CR}^4=\text{C}$ or $\text{CHR}^4\text{—CR}^5$;

where R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano and aryloxy or R⁴ and R⁵ together with the carbons of the steroid backbone to which they are attached form a cycloalkyl group;

-G-J- represents the group $\text{>C=CR}^{11}\text{—}$;

where R¹¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, protected hydroxy, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano and aryloxy; and

-E-E- represents the group $\text{—CR}^6=\text{CR}^7\text{—}$;

where R⁶ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano and aryloxy; and

R⁷ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano, aryloxy, acetylthio, furyl and substituted furyl;

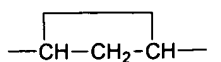
R^{17a} is selected from the group consisting of hydroxy and protected hydroxy; and

R^{17b} is alkynyl.

23. (new) The compound as set forth in claim 22 wherein R¹⁰ is methyl, R¹¹ is hydrogen and R¹³ is methyl.

24. (new) The compound as set forth in claim 23 wherein -A-A- represents the group $\text{—CH}_2\text{—CH}_2\text{—}$ or —CH=CH— .

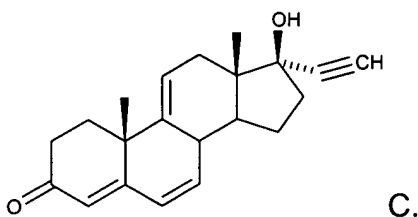
25. (new) The compound as set forth in claim 24 wherein -B-B- represents the group $\text{—CH}_2\text{—CH}_2\text{—}$ or an α - or β -oriented group:



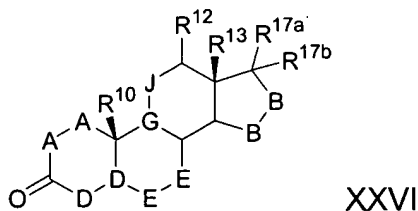
26. (new) The compound as set forth in claim 25 wherein -E-E- is $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$.

27. (new) The compound as set forth in claim 26 wherein R^{11} is hydrogen.

28. (new). The compound as set forth in claim 22 having the structure of Formula C



29. (new) A compound corresponding to Formula XXVI



wherein R^{10} , R^{12} and R^{13} , are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, cyano, and aryloxy;

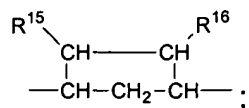
R^{17a} is hydroxy or protected hydroxy;

R^{17b} is alkynyl;

-A-A- represents the group $-\text{CHR}^1-\text{CHR}^2-$ or $-\text{CR}^1=\text{CR}^2-$;

where R^1 and R^2 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, cyano, and aryloxy, or R^1 and R^2 together with the carbons of the steroid nucleus to which they are attached form a (saturated) cycloalkylene group;

-B-B- represents the group $-\text{CHR}^{15}-\text{CHR}^{16}-$, $-\text{CR}^{15}=\text{CR}^{16}$ or an α - or β -oriented group:



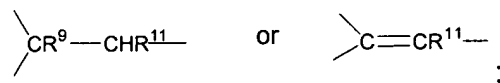
where R¹⁵ and R¹⁶ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano, and aryloxy;

or R¹⁵ and R¹⁶, together with the C-15 and C-16 carbons of the steroid nucleus to which they are respectively attached, form a (saturated) cycloalkylene group;

-D-D- represents the group $\text{---CR}^4\text{=C}$ or $\text{---CHR}^4\text{---CR}^5$;

where R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano and aryloxy or R⁴ and R⁵ together with the carbons of the steroid backbone to which they are attached form a cycloalkyl group;

-G-J- represents the group



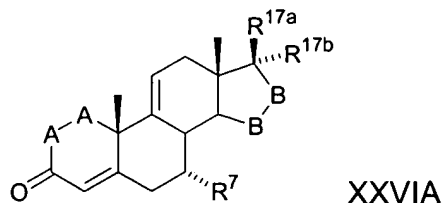
where R⁹ and R¹¹ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, protected hydroxy, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano and aryloxy or R⁹ and R¹¹ together form an epoxy group; and

-E-E- represents the group $\text{---CR}^6\text{=CR}^7\text{---}$;

where R⁶ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano and aryloxy; and

R⁷ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano, aryloxy, acetylthio, furyl and substituted furyl.

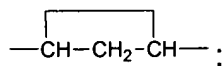
30. (new) A compound as set forth in claim 29 wherein the compound of Formula XXVI is a compound of Formula XXVIA:



wherein

-A-A- represents the group $-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-$ or $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$;

-B-B- represents the group $-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-$ or an α - or β -oriented group:



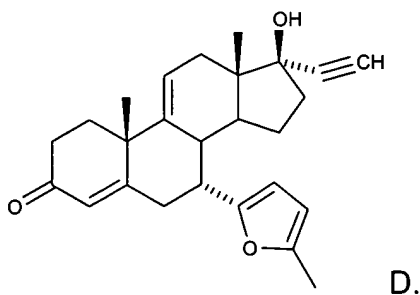
R^7 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, furyl, and alkylfuryl;

R^{17a} is hydroxy or protected hydroxy; and

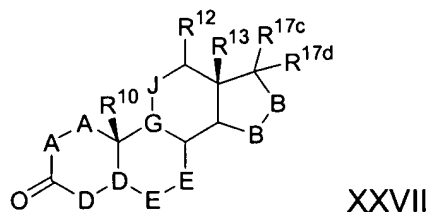
R^{17b} is alkynyl.

31. (new) A compound as set forth in claim 29 having the structure of Formula

D



32. (new) A compound of Formula XXVII:



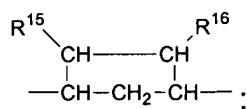
wherein:

R^{10} , R^{12} , and R^{13} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, cyano, and aryloxy;

-A-A- represents the group $-\text{CHR}^1-\text{CHR}^2-$ or $-\text{CR}^1=\text{CR}^2-$;

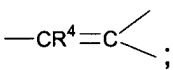
where R¹ and R² are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, cyano, and aryloxy, or R¹ and R² together with the carbons of the steroid backbone to which they are attached form a cycloalkyl group;

-B-B- represents the group -CHR¹⁵-CHR¹⁶- or an α - or β -oriented group:



where R¹⁵ and R¹⁶ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano, and aryloxy;

R^{17c} is selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, protected hydroxy; and R^{17d} is alkenyl;

-D-D- represents the group $\text{---CR}^4\text{=C}$ 

where R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano and aryloxy or R⁴ and R⁵ together with the carbons of the steroid backbone to which they are attached form a cycloalkyl group;

-G-J- represents the group $\text{>C=CR}^{11}\text{---}$;

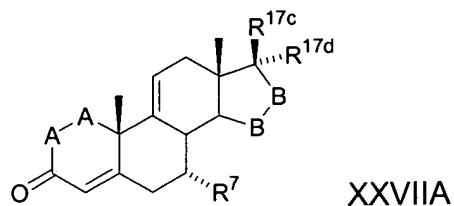
where R¹¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, protected hydroxy, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano and aryloxy; and

-E-E- represents the group -CR⁶=CR⁷-;

where R⁶ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, alkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano and aryloxy; and

R⁷ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano, aryloxy, acetylthio, furyl and substituted furyl.

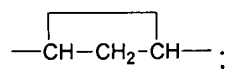
33. (new) A compound according to claim 32 corresponding to Formula XXVIIA:



wherein

-A-A- represents the group $-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-$ or $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$;

-B-B- represents the group $-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-$ or an α - or β -oriented group:



R^7 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, furyl, and alkylfuryl;

R^{17c} is hydroxy or protected hydroxy; and

R^{17d} is alkenyl.

34. (new) A compound according to claim 33 corresponding to Formula E:

